



ESADE Q&A

Q: What is special about your MBA program? In addition to its' excellent reputation, what differentiates it from other Top MBA programs?

A: All schools attending this fair are outstanding but each school has a stronger focus in some specific areas. At ESADE our focus is: Innovation, Entrepreneurship (understanding that this can apply also to the corporate world in that case it would be Intrapreneurship) and Leadership.

We have a boutique size MBA (160 students per year divided in 3 sections) so we are a big family and Career Services can offer a personalized service.

The flexibility of the MBA would be another highlight as the candidate can choose the length of the program which can be 12 or 15 or 18 months. (Core program is 12 months but candidates can extend 3 or 6 more months with electives or an international exchange or an internship).

And last but not least, the school is in Barcelona an international vibrant city with great quality of life, low living expenses (compared to other MBA hubs) and an amazing startup ecosystem (although Career services will offer job opportunity connections not only in Spain but also in other European cities or in other continents (Latam or Middle East)).

Q: Are there any recent changes in the programs or in the admission process?

A: we don't have big changes there are always new study tours or new electives but this year there are no big changes other than the typical annual update in terms of content more related to hot topics (AI, sustainability,)

Q: Given the ongoing conflict in Israel and the pro-Palestinian demonstrations on campuses worldwide, how will these factors impact admissions for prospective Israeli students? Additionally, how can you reassure Israeli students who may be worried about studying in your university in the current unstable and challenging situation?

A: We totally understand this concern but at ESADE we are true believers of diversity and collaboration. So any disrespectful attitude with one of our students would be a red line with radical consequences. In any case when we receive this question we prefer to connect the candidate with a current student so they can confirm that the school atmosphere is very open and respectful.

Q: Can you share some details about the atmosphere in the school? Amongst the students? Between students and faculty? How do students spend their free time?

A: As explained before, at ESADE diversity is a key factor in our school but this diversity wouldn't make sense in a competitive environment in our school there is a strong sense of community and collaboration (there is no Gaus bell when scoring students and in fact an important part of the score will be based on team assignments). So the atmosphere is very friendly (also with professors and staff). There are more that 30 student clubs (some more professional some more social) so there is always plenty of activities on campus!



Q: Can you share some details about the area the school is located in?

A: ESADE is based in Barcelona a city somehow similar to Tel Aviv in the sense that due to the nice weather people love outdoor sports. People is very friendly and extrovert. Food is also an important element of our culture so we have amazing restaurants including “Compartir” Top 1 restaurant in the last ranking “The worlds best 50 restaurants”. Art, design, architecture and culture is also very present with amazing museums and buildings open to visitors.

Living and accommodation costs is cheaper compared to other typical US and European cities where MBAs are offered.

And on a more professional aspect Barcelona is a very important European hub for tech startups or innovation hubs and the city hosts important events such as The Mobile World Congress.

Q: Can you share some details regarding job opportunities and summer internships for students in your school?

A: Our career services team is divided in 4 areas, offering optional CAPS (Career Accelerator Program) focused in these industries: Finance & Banking, Consulting, Tech and Healthcare. The CAPS are optional the idea is to connect with headhunters and recruiters from the 4 different industries and give very hands-on tips on how to face job interviews in these different areas. Even if we are proud of our entrepreneurship and innovation focus that doesn't mean that all our students will end in startups in fact around 25% will end in consulting (but always with this think out of the box mentality).

Q: What is it that you are looking for in a candidate? Who will especially enjoy this school? who will be a good fit to the school?

A: Personal fit candidate-school a key element of the admission process. So all the information shared above would resonate with the typical ESADE candidate. Does all this resonates with you?

innovation, entrepreneurship, leadership, diversity, collaboration, flexibility, startups, consulting, finance, tech, healthcare, career services, Barcelona.... Then ESADE can be the right fit for you.

A: One most important piece of advice for an applicant based on your experience?

A: The MBA is a once in a life experience so its normal to have many doubts, feel free to ask as much as needed to your Admissions Advisor but also contact alumni or current students and if possible arrange a campus visit of those schools in your short list. 9 reasons for choosing the school will be based on many objective criteria but reason number 10 will be got feeling.

A: What NOT to do in the admissions process?

A: As mentioned before an important criteria for admission is personal fit so be yourself!



Q: Are later rounds worth considering?

A: Yes sure but in an early stage you will bring more diversity and there will be also more scholarship budget so our recommendation is to apply in early rounds.

Q: GMAT and importance as a % of the candidacy? What is the minimum GMAT you are looking for?

A: To be very honest, in terms of admission we have a very holistic approach where GMAT is important but never main key factor. But different story applies for the scholarship committee. As budget is limited and we need to allocate that budget on a very objective way then GMAT becomes a more crucial element because it's the only 100% objective criteria where we can compare in equal conditions candidates from all the world and backgrounds.

Q: Is there anything you'd like our candidates to know regarding the admissions process?

A: On top of GMAT or GRE we also accept ESADE internal test (contact us for further information). And before applying don't feel bad if you need to arrange several calls because you have many questions its an important decision and having many questions is normal!

Q: Any tips for Israeli applicants considering applying to your school?

A: Feel free to contact us if you want to be connected with an alumni or current student from Israel.

Q: Can you tell us more about funding – scholarship/fellowship options in your school?

A: At ESADE we have both excellent awards (based in GMAT, GRE, Professional experience, Personal impact....) and Need based scholarships (where on top of that some proof of financial situation is required). Excellence award are quite easy to obtain although the amount will not be high (up to 50% maximum but 25% in average) while need based is the opposite, chances for having are not so high (we give 3 per year) but the amount will be high (around 75%).

Q: Can you share some information about partners who are joining the student-Employment options for him/her? What are the visa requirements?

A: Family visa does not allow to work but if they find a job they can then arrange the working visa. More information regarding [family visa here](#) or you can ask support to our International Students Advisors at isa@esade.edu